

SIMLA CONF.

To Simla, summer residence of the Viceroy, flocked Indian ~~political~~ leaders for the Conference convened by Lord Wavell to attempt a settlement of India's political future. These pictures unavoidably lag behind the news that the Simla conference failed. At the Viceregal Lodge Lord and Lady Wavell welcomed their distinguished guests. Mahatma Gandhi, still the key man to the situation in India, did not attend the Conference himself but visited the Viceroy for informal talks before the sittings began. At 75 Gandhi remains the most astute, uncompromising politician in India.

Pandit Nehru, a former President of Congress, addressed some followers from the balcony of his hotel, defining the Hindu position. That ~~man~~ continues to be fundamentally ~~at variance~~ ~~with that of the Muslim League.~~ ~~Mr. Jinnah,~~ *the* Muslim leader, reaffirmed the demand for a separate Muslim state, Pakistan. ~~While differing among themselves~~ All delegates recognise the complete sincerity of Lord Wavell, ~~The Viceroy generously took blame for the Simla failure upon himself. Few will agree with that verdict, but many with his belief that~~ *ultimately* settlement was brought nearer by the Simla Conference.